



Cottonwood Heights NEWS JOURNAL

www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov



BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAXES

City Council Article Kelvyn H. Cullimore – MAYOR

During the month of August the Salt Lake County Treasurer will be sending out property tax notices. These notices will state your assessed property value and show each taxing entity that levies a tax on your property. If any of those entities propose a tax increase, they must hold a public hearing and the information about that hearing will be disclosed on the notice you receive.

I am pleased to report that once again Cottonwood Heights is not raising taxes or imposing any new fees. Since the incorporation of the city, we have budgeted conservatively enough that no tax or fee increases have been necessary. By contrast, residents of unincorporated Salt Lake County have seen three property tax increases and a significant police fee (that will be converted to a property tax increase next year) since 2005.

Some Cottonwood Heights residents may believe that their taxes have increased. That would

only be the case if 1) some taxing entity other than the city raised taxes, or 2) the valuation of your property by the county assessor increased more than the average in the area or declined less than the average in the area, causing your property to be relatively more valuable than it was last year.

Cottonwood Heights receives approximately \$7 million in property taxes each year. That amount has not changed materially since we incorporated unless there was new construction added to the tax rolls. Under Truth in Taxation laws, the county provides each taxing entity a tax rate that will yield tax revenue equivalent to the prior year based on the assessed valuations for all property in the taxing area. However, the way assessments are set could result in your individual property being worth relatively more or less than the prior year translating to higher, or lower, property taxes than the prior year.

Theoretically, if no taxing entities raised their taxes and all property remained relatively the same value within the assessed area, everyone

would pay the exact same property taxes year over year. Therefore, if your property taxes have increased it is not because the city has raised taxes – because we haven't. If your property is one of those that had a relative increase in assessed valuation and you feel it has been done in error, you may want to consider appealing the county assessor's valuation. Instructions for appealing your tax valuation will be provided with the notices you receive. Appeals are time sensitive so please be aware of the deadlines.

As I previously mentioned, Cottonwood Heights receives approximately \$7 million in property taxes each year. The city taxes represent about 15 percent of the total property taxes paid by property owners. Our budget for the next fiscal year anticipates total revenues of \$14.3 million. Of that, \$7 million is from property taxes, \$4.3 million from sales taxes, \$1.1 million from gas taxes, \$600,000 from other taxes, \$600,000 from licenses and permits, and \$700,000 from grants, interest, and other revenue.

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CITY INFORMATION: City Council Members

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CALL DIRECT:

City Manager.....944-7010
City Planning.....944-7065
Public Works944-7090
Recorder.....944-7021
Treasurer.....944-7077
Finance Director.....944-7012
Code Enforcement.....944-7095
Customer Service.....944-7000
Media Relations944-7015
Police Administration.....944-7100

To hear the agenda for the next city council meeting call: 944-7003

For the planning commission agenda call 944-7004

For details about the agendas, check our web site:

www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

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Animal Control.....840-4000

Justice Court.....273-9731



PRIMARY ELECTION TO BE HELD FOR DISTRICT ONE CITY COUNCIL SEAT

Five residents have filed for the District One city council seat being vacated by Councilman Gordon Thomas. Because of the high number of candidates, a primary election will be held in that district on Sept. 13 to narrow the number of candidates to two before the general election in November.

The candidates in District One are Richard "Dick" Fisher, Janet Janke, Todd Leeds, Crystal Perry, and Mike Shelton. The candidates in District Two are Scott Bracken and James Thuet.

In the District One primary election, early voting is available from Aug. 15 through Sept. 9 at the Salt Lake County Government Center at 2001 S. State Street. Early voting will also be available at the city offices from Aug. 30 to Sept. 9.

A sample ballot and a copy of the Fair Campaign Practices Pledge, along with information about polling precincts, polling locations and how to register to vote are available through our website at [www.ch.utah.gov/public_](http://www.ch.utah.gov/public_records.election.html)

[records.election.html](http://www.ch.utah.gov/public_records.election.html).

The Cottonwood Heights Youth City Council will also sponsor "Meet the Candidates Night" on Aug. 25 from 6 to 8 p.m. in the first floor training room at the city offices. Candidates from both District One and District Two will be available to speak with residents about their campaigns and current issues in Cottonwood Heights.





Chief Robby Russo

Chief's CORNER



As a patrol officer I was often called to testify about the techniques I used to identify a DUI driver on the roadway. I would be asked to articulate the driving pattern I observed to reach the level of probable cause needed to affect a traffic stop. I'm not sure much specialized training is required anymore, since any driver with six months of experience is qualified to spot an impaired motorist from three blocks away.

I've been following a researcher named David L. Strayer at the University of Utah, along with his colleagues. Professor Strayer conducted an epidemiological and simulator-based study to evaluate the negative impact of talking and texting on cell phones while driving. He was kind enough to allow me to cite some of his research in this article, and his complete study can be found in published works at: <http://www.psych.utah.edu/lab/appliedcognition/publications/texting.pdf>

First of all, imagine my surprise when the study validated that having my wife in the car adds a second set of eyes and helps me navigate! On a more serious note, we have all seen distracted drivers with their dog on

their lap, putting on make-up, shaving or having a Crown Burger and Coke while travelling on our roadways. Not surprisingly, Strayer's conclusion is that there exists a measurable impact on driving when using a cell phone. The interesting part of the conclusion is the related data.

For example, Strayer's study demonstrated "there was no difference between use of handheld and hands-free cell phones in terms of their impact on driving performance." By contrast, listening to radio broadcasts or books on tape did not impair driving performance.

I'm not sure Utah has the political appetite to ban all cell phone usage but the science is intriguing. Strayer, Drews and Johnson demonstrated that drivers conversing on a cell phone show signs of inattention blindness. In other words, they process up to 50 percent less of the information regarding their environment than a driver who is not engaged in a cell phone conversation.

How do these results apply to us? Law enforcement agencies have always argued that distracted drivers are just as dangerous as DUI drivers. The science seems to validate this

concern since we find the same contributing factors in accidents involving both distracted drivers and drivers who are under the influence. The braking time is significantly increased with drivers who are dual-tasking, as is the reaction time to threats and maintaining travel in the correct lanes.

Interestingly, drivers who are texting seem to naturally recognize this, and Strayer's study shows they allow increased distance between them and the car in front of them. I presume this is an attempt to allow for increased reaction time so they can look down at their smart phone. Unfortunately, the increased distance between cars doesn't compensate for other hazards resulting in a six-fold increase of crashes when participants are texting while driving.

Utah has a "Driving while Distracted" law on the books and recently made texting while driving illegal. On average, even if you are not involved in an accident, the average fine for distracted driving is \$595. But even if the law didn't exist, it's just safer for everyone to put down our phones and pay attention to the road.



CERT CLASSES OFFERED

Every season in Utah reminds us that nature can cause emergency situations, anything from winter storms to flooding to wildfires. Learn the basics—invest a few hours in emergency training this fall to prepare yourself and your loved ones for any situation you may face.

Cottonwood Heights, in cooperation with Unified Fire Authority, is pleased to announce an upcoming four-week CERT training course. Classes are being held at the LDS Butler Stake, located at 7035 Nutree Dr. (3340 East).

These classes are taught by trained personnel from our fire department who will prepare volunteers with the necessary skills for helping others in times of disaster. Topics include:

- Disaster awareness
- Fire safety (including fire extinguisher use)
- Emergency medical skills
- Light search and rescue
- Psychology of disasters
- Emergency organizational skills

Prior to the hands-on training, online training must be completed. After that, the hands-on training will take place over the course of four Thursdays starting Sept. 15 from 6:30 to 9:30 p.m. The cost of the class is \$30, which includes a helmet, vest, first aid gear and a textbook, but participants must bring safety glasses, gloves, and closed-toed shoes or work boots.

Registration for the CERT classes is required and can be completed online at www.unifiedfire.org.





COMMUNITY CULTURE



It's your turn to see what it's like "Over the Rainbow!" Visit the most magical Munchkinland ever at "The Wizard of Oz" on Aug. 5, 6, 8, 12, and 13 at Brighton High School. The play is produced by the Cottonwood Heights Arts Council by special arrangement with Tams-Witmark Music Library, Inc.

Dorothy, played by Makayla Connor, will sweep you away from the moment the

Arts council presents "The Wizard of Oz"

tornado twists through Kansas, transporting the Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Cowardly Lion to the Haunted Forest and Emerald City. The cast, featuring more than fifty munchkins, includes actors aged 4 to 75. The actor who plays the Cowardly Lion hails from the Utah Opera, and the music director is a Grammy award winner.

Choreographer Michelle Nielsen said, "It has been a delight working with such

a talented group, especially these dancers - their experience and artistry is impressive."

All shows start at 7 p.m. Tickets cost \$7 per person and \$25 per family and are available at PDQ Service Center (3434 E. Bengal Blvd), Whole Foods in Cottonwood Heights (6930 S. Highland Dr.), and the Cottonwood Heights city offices (1265 E. Fort Union Blvd Ste 250) or at the door on the night of the event.

HISTORICAL QUESTION

August Historical Question:

Cottonwood Heights has a rich Japanese-American heritage. Which Japanese families built and lived in the white frame houses next to Brighton High School?

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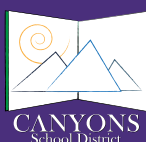
@CHCITY | @CHPOLICE



Cottonwood Heights WELCOMES THE



Albion KNIGHTS middle school



U of U Parent Association hosts freshman "Send-Off"

The University of Utah Parent Association is sponsoring a "Send-Off" for freshmen students registered for the Fall 2011 semester and their families. The event will be held in the first-floor training room at the Cottonwood Heights city offices on Thursday, Aug. 11, from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

This will be a casual gathering for students and parents to learn more about the university and the parent association, ask questions, meet other students and families in the immediate area, network for possible ridesharing and to receive information on mass transit alternatives to the U from our area.

All parents of registered students are members of the parent association, whose mission is to:

- Promote student success, health and safety by engaging the parents in the educational process;
- Engage parents in the university's mission and goals;
- Provide a communication forum for parents on a quarterly basis;
- Through the Executive Committee, act as parent advisors for parents to help them with questions, advice or be somebody with whom to talk.

If you would like to attend this event, please RSVP to mflora@sa.utah.edu or 801.581.7069. It is being hosted by Kyle Krogen, Vice President of the U of U Parent Association. Park and enter the building from the south and a sign will direct you to the training room.

Parent Association



www.parents.utah.edu

Butlerville Days A Chance To Remember City's Beginnings

Despite school construction projects and wet weather, the city's annual Butlerville Days celebration delighted residents and visitors alike for the seventh Pioneer Day in a row.

This year, the Butlerville Days Committee focused on the history of our area, and tried to draw attention to the city's pioneer heritage.

"We really pushed hard this year to emphasize the historical aspect of the event," said committee chairman Georgia Anderson, speaking of the first-ever historical scavenger hunt. "It was well received and helps people understand why we use the name Butlerville."

Other events included the annual parade, which opened the festivities, a children's mining activity area, old-fashioned games, contests, live entertainment and a classic car show.

Even though wide-open space was a little harder to come by this year due to construction on the new Butler Middle School and rain threatened to force the crowds under cover, Butlerville Days was a fun and successful reminder of the city's heritage and ancestors.

Cottonwood Heights would like to thank the members of the Butlerville Days Committee, all the volunteers, our generous sponsors, the Cottonwood Heights Police Department and all those who attended the event for making it such a fun experience!

- Georgia Anderson—Chair
- Larry Scott—Co-chair
- Melissa Lowry—Parade chair
- Margo Cowley—Publicity, Signage
- Denise Sinquefield—Social networking, volunteer float
- Jean McMullin and Jenny Warner—Children's historical activities
- Carla Ballif—Volunteer t-shirts and VIP area
- Chuck Koehn—Classic car show
- Sylvia Orton and John Glauser--Historical display
- Holly Astin—Teen events and activities
- Lorraine Turner—Pie-eating contest
- Tom Eatchel and Craig Taft—Electrical support
- Penney Henricksen—Ticket sales
- Geoff Armstrong—Budget
- Pat Coleman—Food pavilion maintenance
- Councilman Scott Bracken—City Council Liaison
- Ann Eatchel—City Events Coordinator

Special Thanks To Our Sponsors:

Mountain America Credit Union, Cottonwood Heights Rec Center, Beckstrand and Associates, Dan's Foods, Pacific Corp./Rocky Mountain Power, Capitol Hill Advisors, Memorial Estates, Callister, Nebeker & McCullough, Insurance Concepts, Dynatronics, Siegfried and Jensen, Hillside Floral





BUTLERVILLE DAYS 2011



August 2011



BUDGET AND PROPERTY TAXES

TAXES

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The largest expenditure of our revenues is allocated to public safety. All totaled we are budgeting \$8.35 million for fire, police and code enforcement—almost 60 percent of the budget. Police services and code enforcement combine for \$5.2 million while our budget for fire protection is \$3.15 million. We believe public safety is the most important service we provide to our citizens and that our expenditures for these services are well in line with municipal norms while still providing the highest level of service.

In addition to public safety we have budgeted \$2.2 million for road maintenance and public works, \$2.7 million for general government (personnel costs, court costs, legal costs, IT, elections, business licensing, etc.), \$700,000 in community development costs (planning & zoning and economic development) and \$250,000 in other expenditures.

In addition to these general fund revenues and expenditures, the city will have approximately \$7 to \$8 million in its capital projects budget.

This is money reserved for construction of special projects such as Mountview Park, a city hall or major storm drain or road projects.

Although our general revenues are down more than \$2 million from fiscal year 2008, we have tightened our belts and prioritized our expenditures to assure the budget is balanced without assessing additional revenue or taxes. Other than one capital lease, Cottonwood Heights is debt free and we still are the only city in the county that does not assess taxes on telecommunications or electrical or natural gas services.

When you receive your tax notice this month, we hope you will recognize that not only have we successfully balanced the budget without a tax increase, but that the taxes you are paying to the city are being managed wisely and are deployed for services that make our community a great place to live. For more detailed information on our budget please visit our website at www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov.

Names In The News

CITY FINAL

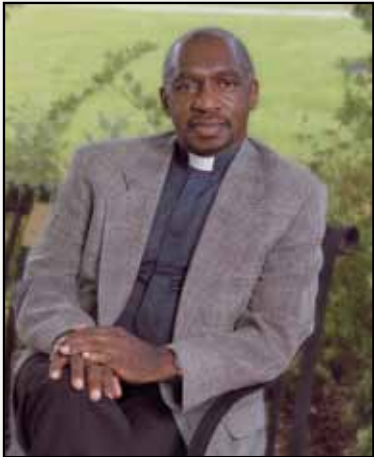
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The Rev. France A. Davis, pastor of Calvary Baptist Church and resident of Cottonwood Heights, was recently honored by the Days of '47 Celebration Committee as a "Pioneer of Progress."

The award honors "outstanding individuals whose lives exemplify the pioneer legacy of industry and integrity and whose works benefit present and future generations."

The Rev. Davis has served as pastor of Calvary Baptist for 37 years. Raised in Georgia, he moved to Salt Lake City as a teaching fellow in 1972. Over the course of his career, he has earned degrees in Afro-American Studies, Arts and Humanities, Rhetoric, Religion and Philosophy, and Mass Communications. He currently teaches as an Adjunct Associate Professor in the University of Utah's Honors and Ethnic Studies Program.

The Rev. Davis is very active in community causes, and has served on the boards of the Salt Lake Housing Authority, the Career Service Council, and the Salt Lake Convention and Visitors Bureau.



Robert W. Mendenhall, president of Western Governors University, received the 2011 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award for the Utah Region. He was one of ten winners announced at a gala celebration at the Salt Palace on June 24.

Dr. Mendenhall was recognized for leading the development and growth of WGU, an online university which is designed to meet the needs of adult learners and boasts an enrollment of more than 25,000 students nationwide since it began operations in 1999.

"This award recognizes the commitment and hard work of so many people who have been instrumental in making our university what it is today," Dr. Mendenhall said. "Their commitment to making high-quality, affordable higher education more accessible is the reason for the university's growth and success."

As a Utah Region award winner, Dr. Mendenhall will now be considered for the 2011 Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year National Award in November.



www.cottonwoodheights.utah.gov

PLANS FINALIZED FOR MOUNTVIEW PARK

The city has finalized the site plan for the new Mountview Park, and the project has been sent out to bid for construction.

The deadline for construction bids is Aug. 12 and a contract will be finalized by Aug. 23. The city expects that construction on the park will be complete by the end of October if the weather permits. Weather delays could mean that some park components will not be completed until spring.

To see the finalized site plan and learn more about Mountview Park, visit the Hot Topics section on the front page of our website, www.ch.utah.gov.



Planning Commission Sees Change In Membership

The Cottonwood Heights Planning Commission lost one member and gained two new ones during the month of July.

Chairwoman Amy Rosevear's appointed term ended, and she was honored by the city council for her six years of service at city council meeting on July 12. At the same meeting, the city council appointed two new members to the planning commission, Dennis Peters and Paxton Guymon.

Peters takes the place of Rosevear and will represent District Two on the planning commission. He has worked in the real estate industry in the Salt Lake area since 1977. He is a past president of the Salt Lake Home Builders Association and a former member of the board of directors for the Salt Lake Board of Realtors.

Guymon will serve as a planning commission alternate. He worked as a real estate agent before becoming a real estate and land use attorney. He serves as a board member of the Utah Land Use Institute and was selected as one of Utah's "Legal Elite" by Utah Business Magazine.



What To Do With All The Sandbags?

Now that the flood threat is past, you may be wondering—what is the best way to dispose of all the sandbags?

If you have sandbags on your property, you are welcome to use the sand for projects such as landscaping. However, please do not dump sand into the creeks!

If you have no use for the sand but want to get rid of the sandbags, you can bring them to Crestwood Park, located at approximately 1640 E. Siesta Drive, until Aug. 14. Crews from Cottonwood Heights and Salt Lake County will then remove the sand from the park on Aug. 15.

After Aug. 15, there will be no more sandbag cleanup efforts sponsored by the city. Once the county has finished the cleanup, property owners will have to keep the sandbags or find an alternative way to dispose of them.

If you have questions about the sandbag cleanup effort, please call the city's public works department at 801-944-7090.





August 2011

HISTORICAL QUESTION

Answer To August Historical Committee Question:

The Mori and Tashiro families. Tsunetaro Mori left Japan when he was eighteen years old. He worked for the railroad in California and nearly lost his life there. He then moved to Idaho where he worked on a sugar beet farm. Tsunetaro saved money to buy land and build a home so he could bring his wife and daughter, left in the care of relatives in Japan, to America. In 1910, he purchased a considerable amount of land in Butlerville and built his house. He and his wife, Tsune, had six children.

The Mori farm in Butlerville produced several varieties of apples, beans, strawberries, onions, garlic, and cherries, which Tsunetaro would take to town in a wagon. When World War II broke out, neighbors were interviewed about the Moris and a rifle and radio were confiscated from them by the government. The Mori family continued to work the land throughout the remainder of the war.

Their daughter, Kiyo Mori, married Akira “Korky” Tashiro who built a house adjacent to the Mori home in Butlerville. As boys, Dean Smart and his cousin Verl “Buck” Buxton worked with Korky Tashiro in the strawberry fields. In 1950, a tragedy occurred when the Tashiros’ two-year-old baby daughter, Nancy Tashiro, was killed after being run over twice by a man who drove on their property.

The Mori farm included land that is now occupied by Brighton High School and the Pinnacle Apartments. Two of the Mori granddaughters still reside in Cottonwood Heights -- Connie Tashiro Reece and Dorothy Hadley.



Change Of Venue For August Movie In The Park

Movies in the park, organized by the Cottonwood Heights Recreation Center and sponsored by the city, are a fun way to get outside and spend time with the family without spending money! This summer’s final movie, “Despicable Me,” will be shown at Antczak Park instead of Mountview Elementary this year. The movie begins at dusk, so bring a blanket and enjoy a cinematic evening under the stars on us!

CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

All City Council business meetings are held in the council chambers, 1265 East Fort Union Blvd., Ste. 300. The work meetings are held in the conference room at the same address but in Ste. 250. The August meeting schedule is as follows:

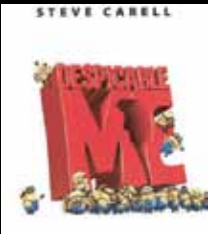
- **Tuesday, August 2nd**
6 p.m. Work Meeting (*reconvenes following business meeting*)
7 p.m. Business Meeting
- **Tuesday, August 9th**
6 p.m. Work Meeting (*reconvenes following business meeting*)
7 p.m. Business Meeting
- **Tuesday, August 16th**
6 p.m. Work Meeting
- **Tuesday, August 23rd**
6 p.m. Work Meeting (*reconvenes following business meeting*)
7 p.m. Business Meeting
- **Tuesday, August 30th**
No meeting (*fifth Tuesday of the month*)

Cottonwood Heights Recreation Center

register online at cottonwoodheights.com



FREE Movie in the Park



Despicable Me
Location moved to Antczak Park

Free inflatable rides start at 7 pm, magician at 8pm (Mont Magic), followed by the free movie at dusk

Tennis: Get in the Game

Adults/youth, all levels register online or in-person now for our Fall tennis lessons & tournament
FALL SESSION BEGINS AUG. 23



2 for 1
Get in 2 people for the price of 1 to open plunge swim Tuesdays & Thursdays all during August

Swim Lessons
Last Swim Session for Summer starts Aug. 8--- sign-ups going on now

Ice Arena Closed for Annual Maintenance July 30-Aug. 19
Facility Hours Aug. 20 6 am-5 pm

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Cottonwood Heights, UT

